

Epoch.	Observer.	θ_{\circ}	θ°	$\theta^{\circ} - \theta^{\circ}$	ρ_{\circ}	ρ°	$\rho_{\circ} - \rho^{\circ}$
1867.15	Dembowski	232.1	227.4	+ 4.70	1.28	1.19	+ 0.09
1868.14	"	228.5	226.1	+ 2.40	1.05	1.18	- 0.13
1869.19	Dunér	224.6	224.63	- 0.03	0.95	1.17	- 0.22
1870.81	Dembowski	223.3	222.25	+ 1.05	1.21	1.16	+ 0.05
1870.87	O. Struve	224.13	222.17	+ 1.96	1.09	1.16	- 0.07
1873.42	Dembowski	219.2	218.45	+ 0.75	1.26	1.14	+ 0.12
1876.18	Dunér	211.9	214.25	- 2.35	1.22	1.11	+ 0.11
1876.88	Dembowski	212.8	213.17	- 0.37	1.11	1.11	0.00
1877.18	Schiaparelli	209.9	212.71	- 2.81	0.98	1.10	- 0.12
1878.35	Dembowski	208.2	210.8	- 2.60	0.99	1.10	- 0.01
1879.10	Hall	205.8	209.61	- 3.81	0.89	1.09	- 0.20
1880.14	Jedrzejewicz	209.1	207.91	- 1.19	1.03	1.08	- 0.05
1881.13	Hall	203.2	206.28	- 3.08	1.03	1.07	- 0.04
1881.16	Jedrzejewicz	205.9	206.23	- 0.33	1.08	1.07	+ 0.01
1882.14	"	201.3	204.62	- 3.32	1.00	1.06	- 0.06
1882.76	Engelmann	203.3	203.53	- 0.23	1.15	1.06	+ 0.09
1886.917	Tarrant	196.4	196.15	+ 0.25	1.13	1.04	+ 0.09
1886.977	"	195.8	196.11	- 0.31	1.16	1.04	+ 0.12
1887.019	Young	195.5	196.07	- 0.57	0.98	1.04	- 0.06

The magnitudes of the components are about 6 and 7. According to the above elements the distance will remain nearly constant during the next fifty years, the angle diminishing to about 107° in the year 1936. As far as I know the orbit has not been previously computed. Some of the measured angles in late years are very discordant. Professor Young's measure this year was communicated to me by private letter.

Observations of the Variable Star S (10) Sagittæ. By J. E. Gore.

The following are my observations of this interesting variable star in the year 1886. They form a continuation of the observations given in the *Monthly Notices* for January 1886.

The comparison stars are, as before :—

					Mag.
11	<i>Sagittæ</i>	...	...	...	5.8
9	<i>Sagittæ</i>	...	...	...	6.6
DM + 16°, 4086		...	...	...	7.0

Observations of 10 Sagittæ.

Date.	h m	Mag.	Date.	h m	Mag.
1886, Jan.	6 5 45	5·7	1886, Sept.	30 10 25	6·2
	13 6 0	6·4		30 11 20	6·1
May	19 10 25	6·1	Oct.	1 7 55	5·7
	21 10 50	5·8		1 10 40	5·7
	22 10 15	5·9		7 9 30	6·4
	26 10 30	6·4		9 7 10	6·0
	31 10 45	5·9		10 6 45	5·7
June	12 10 30	6·4		12 7 5	5·7
July	12 10 15	5·8		13 10 10	5·9
	19 10 0	5·7		16 7 15	6·3
	21 9 45	5·9		21 10 54	5·9
	22 10 10	6·1		23 6 45	6·4
Aug.	8 9 15	6·4		23 10 30	6·4
	14 9 0	5·9		24 6 26	6·4
	22 8 40	5·8		25 9 57	6·2
	28 9 0	5·9		26 6 37	5·8
	29 8 15	5·8		26 10 40	5·85
	31 8 20	5·7		28 7 7	5·9
Sept.	1 10 45	6·0		31 6 20	6·1
	2 8 25	6·15	Nov.	1 8 40	6·4
	3 8 20	6·2		3 6 56	6·0
	5 8 42	6·0		4 9 30	5·65
	6 7 58	5·8		5 7 50	5·75
	6 11 35	5·7		8 6 45	6·25
	8 8 25	5·8		10 8 0	6·4
	14 10 2	5·8		16 5 50	6·1
	15 7 40	5·7		17 5 43	6·25
	16 7 50	5·85		23 5 27	5·8
	17 7 55	5·8		26 5 30	6·3
	18 7 40	6·0		30 8 15	5·9
	18 11 20	6·05	Dec.	4 5 26	6·4
	20 8 10	6·4		12 6 10	6·2
	20 11 0	6·4		16 5 22	5·6
	22 7 10	5·9		22 5 4	6·35
	25 11 30	5·9		24 6 25	5·8
	27 7 5	6·2		25 5 30	5·65

A Proposed Nomenclature for Star Colours. By W. S. Franks.

It is generally admitted that the nomenclature of star colours is at present in a very unsatisfactory state, and not at all in keeping with the exact methods employed in other departments of astronomical observation. The hitherto popular fashion of naming star tints after fruit, flowers, precious stones, &c., is both vague and arbitrary, and also objectionable on account of the frequent diversity in tint of the object referred to. Any standard whatever, to be of real utility, must be readily accessible and also of uniform tint—the same at all times and in all places. It is very evident that the terrestrial objects just mentioned do not fulfil any one of these conditions ; and so they should now be definitely rejected, as their retention only serves to perpetuate the existing confusion. The late Admiral Smyth, who was doubtless responsible for the introduction of many of these poetic but exceedingly vague terms, felt the force of the objections to their use, when he wrote the brochure entitled “Sidereal Chromatics”—a book which was unfortunately only intended for private circulation, and therefore not so well known as it deserves to be. It contained a plate of coloured discs, with four gradations each of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple, which was intended as a scale upon which star colours could be more definitely expressed. But this chromatic diagram, pretty as it looked, had several serious faults. Its twenty-four tints were not so carefully selected as they might have been, nor, indeed, were they sufficient to meet the requirements of the observer ; and further, an opaque wafer of colour, necessarily viewed by artificial light (which of course modified its appearance), could not well be compared with a glittering stellar point. The successive depths of tint, also, were inversely put with regard to the numerical order. Thus, the deepest tint of red was called “Red¹,” and the palest “Red.⁴” Some of the colours themselves are open to criticism. For instance, the two deeper shades of orange are not pure, but have a perceptible tinge of red, whilst the two corresponding shades of yellow are really orange-yellow. Neither the red nor the green are typical colours, as anyone may see by comparing them with the ordinary daylight spectrum ; the former is too crimson, and the latter too bluish-green. There is some reference to the colours of stars in Professor Piazzi Smyth’s “Madeira Spectroscopic,” and a chromo-lithograph at the end of that work gives a graduated series of primary, secondary, and tertiary spectrum colours, with their corresponding wave-numbers.

It is pretty evident that, in the future, we must look to the spectrum for our standard colours. But as these star observations are confined to the period when the sun is below the horizon, it is equally obvious that they cannot be directly so